## DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

**Release Date:** August 4, 2004 **Contact:** Rick Jenkins **Release Number:** 3604-01 **Phone:** (916) 735-1500

## SBA Opens Disaster Office to Help Tropical Storm Tingting Victims

**Sacramento, CA** – Hector V. Barreto, Administrator of the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA), declared Guam a disaster area due to damages that occurred June 26 through June 29, 2004 from Tropical Storm Tingting. This action responds to a request from Governor Felix P. Camacho.

SBA's declaration makes low-interest Federal disaster loans available to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private non-profit organizations whose property was damaged or destroyed by the typhoon.

According to SBA Disaster Area Director Alfred E. Judd, SBA is opening a Disaster Center in SBA's Guam Branch Office in Mongmong, located in the First Hawaiian Bank Bldg., 400 Route 8, Suite 302, at 8 am on Tuesday, August 10. "SBA's loan officers will be on hand to meet with each disaster victim in applying for these low-interest disaster loans. They will issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA's disaster loan program, explain the application process, and help each individual complete their application," Judd said

The center will be open **Tuesdays through Fridays from 8 am to 5:30 pm,** and on **Saturdays from 9 am to 1 pm through Saturday, August 28.** "SBA loan officers will be available to answer specific questions about how a disaster loan from SBA may help each victim recover from the disaster, and provide one-on-one assistance in completing their loan application," Judd continued.

SBA disaster loans of up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

"Businesses of any size and private non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. Additionally, Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$1.5 million are available to small businesses," Judd added.

Individuals and businesses unable to visit SBA's disaster center may obtain information and loan applications by writing to SBA at P.O. Box 419004, Sacramento, CA 95841-9004, or by calling toll-free (800) 488-5323. Hearing impaired individuals may call (916) 735-1683.

Applications for property damage must be returned to SBA by October 1, 2004. Applications for economic injury must be returned by May 2, 2005.